CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

This Final Environmental Impact Report (Final EIR) Responses to Comments Document has been prepared to respond to comments received by Contra Costa County on the Draft Environmental Impact Report (Draft EIR) for the WCCSL Bulk Materials Processing Center and Related Actions. After completion of the Draft EIR in November 2003, Contra County (County) is required to consult with, and obtain comments from, public agencies with jurisdiction by law on proposed actions of the proposed project (Project), and to provide the general public with opportunity to review and comment on the Draft EIR. The County is also required to provide responses to comments raised during the public review period related to significant environmental impacts of the Project (California Environmental Quality Act [CEQA] Guidelines Sections 15087 and 15088).

A Draft EIR was distributed for public review and comment in November 2003. This document includes a revised summary of impacts, control measures, and mitigation measures (Table 2-1 from the Draft EIR); the comments received on the Draft EIR; responses to individual comments; and a chapter that contains revisions to the Draft EIR text and graphics as appropriate. This Responses to Comments Document, together with the November 2003 Draft EIR and technical appendices, constitutes the Final EIR. This Final EIR contains the following elements:

- The Draft EIR dated November 2003 (bound separately)
- Letters from public agencies, organizations, and persons commenting on the Draft EIR, including a transcript of public testimony received at the public hearing held on November 25, 2003
- A chapter containing a revised summary of impacts, control measures, and mitigation measures (Table 2-1 from the Draft EIR).
- Responses to comments
- A chapter containing revised text and graphics prepared to clarify or correct the text of the Draft EIR.

This Final EIR does not contain the proposed environmental impact findings and mitigation monitoring program to be adopted by the County Board of Supervisors and/or the City of Richmond as part of the certification of the Final EIR before the Project may be approved (Public Resources Code Section 21081.6 and CEQA Guidelines 15091[a][1]).